

## WAS IT WHALE OR SERPENT?

**A SEA MONSTER THAT WAS SEEN OFF  
SANDY HOOK YESTERDAY**

**Life Saving Crew No. 1, After Gazing at It with a Glass, Assert that its Eyes were as Big as Saucers and its Body 300 Feet Long.**  
SANDY HOOK, Nov. 28.—Some of the crew

the beach near the station at 3 o'clock this afternoon, saw a commotion in the water at about 400 yards distance from the shore, which was at first thought to be caused by a school of porpoises. A minute later, a monstrous black form arose out of the foaming water. The men had been reading in THE SUN of to-day the account of the whale seen on Thanksgiving Day by Capt. Al. Foster and the passengers in the steamboat William Fletcher, between Sandy Hook and Rockaway, eight or nine miles

in their minds with the monster that was lashing the water into spray off shore, some of them hurried to the station to call their comrades, while others levelled a pair of strong field glasses at the creature. Then they saw, the men say, that although it was black, like Capt. Al Foster's

but a serpent-like monster, three hundred feet long. Those who looked through the glasses of the pier said they could plainly see the creature's head when it was lifted above the water, and that it looked bigger than a hog-head. It had an enormous mouth, and shining black eyes as big as saucers. Portions of the long, dark-colored, and rounded body they saw rising and sinking in the water as the monster lazily worked its way along. The creature moved in a snake-like motions. At times, the men say, the creature threw its tail out of the water. The tail seemed to be shaped somewhat like that of a snake.

The monster was seen by all the members of the crew, who ran along the beach and kept it in sight for some time.

Long Branch. It kept at a distance of about 1,200 feet from the shore, increasing its speed as

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monster seen off the coast to-day did not spout, and the manner in which the men say it handled its long body was very unlike a whale's motions. They aver that it was a sea serpent. Nevertheless, some believe that the creature seen to-day was the same that G. F. Thompson

Fletcher, saying they think that after the William Fletcher passed him the monster got out of the Dutch water by way of the main channel and entangled among the intersecting channels in the neighboring shoals, and spent last night and most of to-day in seeking a way out. He had evidently found the right channel just before he was spied from the Sandy Hook beacon.

A whale lost his way in the channels of the Horseshoe, inside Sandy Hook, about two years ago, and was killed by three fishermen, who attacked him with spears and a hatchet from a rowboat.

**The Enormous Land Grants to Railroads.**  
WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—According to the report of the Auditor of Railroad Accounts, up to March 3, 1871, over 200,000,000 acres of the public lands had been granted to States and corporations for railroad purposes, of which over 44,000,000 acres have been patented, and of which more than 12,000,000 acres were for railroad use in whole or in part, west, north, or south of the Missouri River. The value of the 200,000,000 acres of land granted at the average price per acre then obtained, the Auditor states to be \$140,000,000. The amount in United States

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**John Sherman to Force a Financial Issue.**  
WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—There is good reason to believe that at the opening of Congress John Sherman

Director of greenback cash. Gen. Garfield is understood to be in favor of the present document, the real purpose of which is to force the people to believe that the government is democratic to the extreme, so that they will believe that the government is just, and that the treasury of the government is sound. The president is understood to be in favor of the document, and make this an issue of the Presidential campaign.

**Commissioner Phelps's Successor.**

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—Mr. Hayes has appointed Major Thomas P. Morgan, the present Superintendent of Police, as Commissioner of the District to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of S. L. Phelps. The commission on Mr. Morgan will be sent to him to-morrow. The next question is for the unexpired term, which ends June 30, 1883.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—Representative Page, of California, who has arrived here, says that the Pacific coast legislators in Congress have determined to make a retrenchment in favor of some measure that will prevent Chinese immigration into the country. Mr. Page

**The Thermometer in New York Yesterday**  
At Hudson's Pier, New York, at A. M., 43°; 6, 45°  
9, 51°; 12, 55°; 3½ P. M., 58°; 6, 58°; 9, 59°; 12, 58°.

**The Signal Office Prediction.**  
For Middle States, rapidly rising barometer  
brisk to fresh northwesterly winds, cloudy and rainy  
weather, partly snow over the interior, followed by  
drizzle and colder partly cloudy weather. For main  
regions of New York and Pennsylvania, temperatures, 24

**SPARKS FROM THE TELEGRAPH.**

Mr. and Mrs. Hayes have returned to Washington from Philadelphia.

The chemists here have advanced the price of tin four shillings per ton.

Mr. Dr. J. McK. Holliday, brother of Gov. Holliday, died in London, Ky., yesterday, aged 81.

The English Master of the Rolls has made an order that the effect of a Bill will be to remove Mr. Henry Labouchere as a Peer, and to add Mr. John Lubbock.

The *Chicago Tribune*, in the statement of the *Figaro* the Police, Jerome Natchez, at a recent visit to Cardinal Beaudry, declared that he intended to publish a letter

The sawdust factory and saw and planing mill of Schneck and Brothers, at Weirton, a small station on the Pennsylvania Railway, a few miles east of Toledo, burned on Thursday night. Loss, \$3,000; insurance, \$11,000.

The German Postmaster General is preparing a proposal to be presented to the Reichstag under which the Post Office Department will have charge of the entire freight traffic of the German railways and become the general carrier for the public.

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mathe explosion of a nitro-glycerine blast on the Boston  
Hoosac Tunnel and Western Railway, near Johnsonville,  
N. Y., on Thursday. His eyes were blown out and the  
flesh torn from his arms and face.